

U.S. Patent Appln. No. 10/068,332

Docket No. 9100-8

Reply to Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment Dated February 15, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A sleeve of elasticated netting provided with a seam such that when a product is encapsulated by the sleeve a portion of the sleeve will project from the product and will not become embedded in the surface of the product when it is cooked.

2. (Original) A sleeve as claimed in claim 1, wherein the seam extends longitudinally of the sleeve offset from the centre of the sleeve, so that the projection is a small proportion of the width of the sleeve isolated by the seam from the remainder of the sleeve.

3. (Currently Amended) A sleeve as claimed in claim 2, wherein the seam is sewn with yarn stitches which will unravel when an end of the yarn is pulled.

4. (Withdrawn) A method of manufacturing the sleeve claimed in claim 1, the method comprising sewing into the sleeve as it emerges continuously from storage means a longitudinal seam offset from the centre of the sleeve, encapsulating a product in the larger diameter portion of the sleeve and cutting the sleeve roughly to the length of the product whereby the smaller diameter portion of the sleeve on the opposite side of the seam to the product provides a lateral projection which will not become embedded in the product and can be used for handling the same.

5. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the seam is sewn using stitches which will unravel when a cut end of the yarn is pulled.